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hydrodynamics and capillarity; sound; heat and physical chemistry; electricity and magnetism; light. Of pocket size and weight, the volume is admirably fitted to be the student's daily companion as an indispensable book of reference.

**Preliminary Mathematics.** By F. E. AUSTIN. Hanover, N. H.: the author. Pp. iv + 169. \$1.20.

While this book was originally written as a help for those who wished to improve their mathematics, without going to school, it has been adapted for use as an auxiliary text. The first part is designed for junior high schools, the second section for high school use.

The author connects arithmetic and algebra, giving some excellent practice in the operations of arithmetic, and gradually bringing in the use of the algebraic notation and methods.

Throughout the book, and especially in the second section, the emphasis is placed on the solution of problems. This work is rather uneven, the analysis being well done in some cases, and poorly done in others.

**A Brief Account of Radio-Activity.** By FRANCIS P. VENABLE. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. vi + 54.

Dr. Venable has written this book to supplement the meager treatment usually given in text books on chemistry. It covers the history of the discovery of radio-activity, the properties of the radiations, the changes taking place in the bodies, the alpha particle, a discussion of the atom, and a chapter on the connection of all these matters with the theory of chemistry.

**Vocational Mathematics for Girls.** By WILLIAM H. DOOLEY. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. vi + 369.

This is the most complete attempt that has been made to prepare girls for the use of the mathematics needed in their business relations. A foundation is first laid by a review of arithmetic, with some extensions, such as training in reading plane and drawing to scale. Over one hundred pages are then given to the problems in home making, and the rest is divided between such subjects as "Dressmaking and Millinery," "The Office and the Store," "Arithmetic for Nurses" and "Problems on the Farm." In addition there is an excellent appendix containing material of general value, or of less common application to women's work.

The book gives the impression of not only teaching arithmetic, but combining it in interesting form with much valuable knowledge on other subjects.